514
515 leads to the belief that the terms employed to designate them, so
576 easily interchangeable, refer to more general forms of behavior.

515 To blow the nose, one takes in both hands a twig or a stalk of dry grass, folds it in two, and pinches the nose in this improvised nut-cracker while blowing strongly. The mucus is collected by pinching the instrument together under the nose, and the whole thing is thrown away after having been plunged into the sand to dry it.

514 The men urinate standing or while walking. The women crouch, leaning slightly forward and sprinkle themselves with sand to dry themselves. The children act like the adults of their sex, except that the little girls often urinate standing up with their legs separated. The men defecate alone in the bush neighboring the camp, the women do the same, or go in a group. On such occasions one perceives the reality of the group formed by the girls and the secondary wives of polygamous marriages. Thus, a3, a4, a5, a8, a19, and a20 are accustomed to isolate themselves by twos, threes or fours. Elimination is done in a crouched position, in a hole summarily dug in the sand with the hands, or directly on the ground. A small branch is used to clean oneself, and sand, for drying.

841 The women are forced into isolation only at the time of their [63] first menstruation.(1). Following this, they are only subject to

1. Cf. below, p. 109.

certain alimentary and sexual prohibitions:

6. jayoõdage edẽdẽ edẽdẽ edẽdẽ kano kano kano kano kano kanabo huiire tamindige. (b1).
The woman has her menses every two moons (?), then she waits one day, one day, one day, one day, the next day she can eat, copulate.

The taboo on eating for five days is not rigorous, and usually concerns certain types of food. Besides this, a woman cannot bathe during her menses, as is, of course, the general rule for the two sexes during this period. One goes to the river to put water in a gourd and pours it over the body while crouching. Otherwise, the woman takes care of all her habitual occupations. No precaution is taken against
841 the flow of blood, and as no trace of it is noted, it must be supposed
147 that it is greatly reduced (2).

841
147
171 2. Among the Bororo, on the contrary, it is easily seen which women are indisposed. But the above remarks seem to be indicative of a fairly general state of affairs

841 ●147 171 among South-American Indians. Since the sixteenth century, travelers have often been amazed by the insignificance of the menses of Indian women. Thus: "In the period of about one year which we spent in that country, ordinarily associating with the people, we have never seen the women have their menses" (J. de Léry, Voyage faict en la Terre du Brésil, Gaffarel, Paris, 1880, Vol. II, Ch. 17, p. 92); and more recently: "no one notes when they go through certain difficult periods peculiar to their sex" (Tocantins, "Estudos sobre os Mundurucus," Revista do Instituto Historico e Geographico Brasileiro, Vol. 40, 1877, p. 113). On the other hand, the text just cited could be interpreted in two different ways: the vocal inflexion of the informant suggested that the expression edẽdé edẽdé edẽdé signified "(this) moon (yes), (this) moon (no), (and this) moon (again)", meaning "every other moon" and not—as it is also grammatically possible—"moon, moon, moon," that is "every moon." The first sense would constitute a sort of physiological scandal, but remains, nevertheless the most probable. In fact, it is possible that the periodic indispositions are less important and more irregular among South-American women than is the case among the whites.

842 [201] The Nambikwara have a very clear idea of the relationship between sexual intercourse and conception. It is frequent that an Indian clarifies that paternity relationship is one of the blood, and not classificatory, by forming a ring with the thumb and index finger of the left hand, into which he introduces the index finger of the right hand which he glides back and forth. After this demonstration, he indicates the child saying: tayétte, tayette, "my child, my child" (3).

3. From the same observation made by Roquette Pinto (loc. cit. p. 255) more than twenty years earlier, one can conclude that this gesture does not constitute an individual innovation, but a stylized social conduct.

842 833 197 Etymology points out the connection between the two phenomena: in the eastern dialect, "copulate" is translated uiinediutu and, in the central and southern dialects, tamindige, tuuitare. These three terms are attached to the respective forms [64] for "father": ahuinosu (nosu = man, al), tamindé, uáire. On the other hand, in the northern

nights" kanaroʔetẽndige (b1); inversely, nights without moon are particularly approved, as well as rainy periods. In 1938 the rains were late, and the first shower came in September after six months of total drought. The event, so long awaited, was immediately celebrated by B1, who did not even wait for night to have sexual relations with his youngest wife b2. However, day-time relations are rare, and the act was carried out more ostensibly than usual, behind the thin palms of a shelter. Immediately afterwards B1 supplied a spontaneous commentary on meteorological prohibitions. Sexual relations are also, at least theoretically, forbidden between husband and wife [65] from the birth of the child to the time when he can walk. This event is hurried along by rubbing his legs with the juice of a non-identified plant (touriʔiri, c) "so that he will walk quickly, so that another can be made" (1); but, by "another," is understood, undoubtedly sexual intercourse rather than their result, rarely welcome: the Nambikwara women often have recourse to abortion, and they are familiar with a great number of plants and roots for that use. We were not able to obtain a specimen.

1. The same custom existed among the ancient Tupí. Cf. Cardim, Tratado da terra et da gente do Brasil, new ed., Rio-de-Janeiro, 1925, p. 170.

The attitude of the Nambikwara toward things pertaining to love can be summed up in their formula tamĩndige mõndage, translated literally, if not elegantly: "To make love is good." We have already mentioned the erotic atmosphere which fills daily life. Love affairs hold the interest and curiosity of the Indians to the highest degree. They are eager for conversation on these subjects, and the remarks exchanged in the camp are filled with allusions and hidden meanings. However, sexual relations are rare, and the prohibitions which limit them explain this state of affairs only partially. The thing truly responsible seems rather to be indigenous temperament. In the course of the amorous games to which couples give themselves over so willingly and so publicly, and which are often very far advanced, we have never been able to note the beginning of an erection. The pleasure looked for seems to be less of the physical order than playful and sentimental. Sexual relations usually take place at night, and often not far from the fires of the camp. More often the couple draws back about a hundred meters into the neighboring bush. This departure is noted immediately, and gives rise to the most

5:Roquette-Pinto E-4 (no date)1913 SP17 Nambicuara SP17

Abstract.

Little has hitherto been known of the Nhambiquára who inhabit the valley of the Juruena and are spread thence to the rivers Sararé and Galéra, affluents of the Guaporé. In 1909, an official Brazilian explorer, Colonel Rondon, during his journey in the interior of Matto Grosso, was able to enter into friendly relations with them, collecting ethnological objects, and gathering information of their life, geographical distribution and customs, with those also of the Parecí.

The Parecí give the names Uáikoákorê and Ouihanierê to the Nhambiquára, thus dividing them into two groups. Individuals of the latter group have darker skins and are more warlike. Colonel Rondon appears to have cleared up the meaning of the name Kabixí, which has been a cause of confusion, as often happens with collective names like Bugre, Tapuya, Guaycurú and others. The dwellers in Villa Bella (Matto Grosso) were accustomed to call Kabixí those Indians whom the Parecí called Uáikoákorê, and who, as now stated, are Nhambiquára. This name of Uáikoákorê is given by the Parecí of the sub-tribes Kaxinití and Uaimaré of the rivers Arinos, Sacuriú-iná, Tahura-iná and Timalatiá to their kindred of the Kozárini group who inhabit the upper parts of the Rio Verde, the Juba, Cabaçal and Jauxú. The term Kabixí is derogatory, implying an inferior condition.

The Nhambiquára are usually of medium height; they have large teeth, the abdomen rather prominent, muscular thighs, slender legs and well made feet. They perforate the nostrils, the nasal septum and the ear-lobes. Through the holes made in the nose they pass small pieces of wood, and from the ear lobes they hang ornaments made of small beads of coconut. They wear armlets, bracelets, leg ornaments and bead collars made from the fruit of the mbacába. They live by the chase, but also plant maize, yams, potatoes, mandioc, and beans. They smoke leaves similar to Brazilian tobacco and do not use hammocks but sleep on the ground, like the Campa-atsíri and the Amuésa of the Gran Pajonal.

In the collection made by Colonel Rondon for the National Museum at Rio de Janeiro there is an alimentary paste similar to the Kêtêhê of the Parecí, made from pounded mandioc. The native *breu* or bitumen is used with string to fasten arrow points to their shafts. It appears to be a mixture of Oanini and wax, and is preserved in leaves of the Malá-malá palm. It melts at a very low temperature.

To fell trees a stone axe, fixed in a wooden handle by means of cord and bitumen, is used. The Indian who succeeds in felling certain trees with this primitive instrument receives as reward an arara or mutúm feather for a nose-ornament. Such a decoration is usually reserved for warlike prowess among the natives of Brazil. The bows are large, strong, of red wood and well-polished, with semi-cylindrical transversal section. Those in the Rondon collection vary from 1m. 80 to 2m. 38 in length. To draw an arrow of 50cm. between the larger bow and its string of tucum a traction force of 60 kilos. is necessary, as verified by the dynamometer. There are five types of arrows. They have two musical instruments, one, a double flute made of two pieces of bamboo tied together, the other, two concave disks of calabash, about 8 cm. in diameter, united at the edges by a strip of Malá-malá and breu. The upper disk has three orifices.

7:Roquette-Pinto--1 E-4, 5 (no date) 1938 SP17 Nambicuara SP17 (ca. 1912)

Chapter VIII

Physical Anthropology and Pathology

123 [175] Unfortunately in 1912 the Nambicuara were not yet sufficiently accustomed to the presence of strangers in their mountains. In spite of their bribed willingness, they viewed my research with justifiable suspicion.

101 124 The Indians who were examined belonged to the following groups: Cocozu, Anunze, Tagnani and Tawite [Tauité]. Among the Uaintaçu, a still hostile group, I was able to gather only one incomplete set of data. The state of excitement of the Indian during the examination did not permit better results.

142 Their skin is the color of yellowish burned sienna, dark among the Cocozu, light among the others. Some Tagnani individuals have an almost pinkish complexion. Many nearly black types are found among the Indians of the Juruena and Juina rivers; those are the darkest Indians in Brazil. On the Roquette-Childe color scale used in the National Museum of Rio de Janeiro, the coloring of these Indians varies between numbers six and ten.

The skin is coarse and wrinkled.

The hair is straight and coarse (lissotrichous). Some individuals have wavy hair similar to that of the Polynesians. The Indians 302 usually pull out their body and face hair and cut it on the forehead with a bivalve shell. [176] A few of them leave some strands of hair above or below the lips.

[264] Nearly all permit their nails to grow freely, for they make useful implements to tear the meat at mealtime.

[147] The soles of their feet never become thickly callused as those of Negroes who go barefoot.

142 Their feet are relatively large, their legs slender and muscular. The abdomen is prominent, the hands small. The chest is knotty [encordoado] and not very large.

141 The measurements which we were able to obtain for normal adult males are shown in Tables A and B.

2 [See pp. 66-67, category 116. —Analyst]

1 [Nambicuara sub-groups -- Analyst]

141 xiphoid appendix) is half the xiphoid-pubic distance; thus the height
142 of the abdomen is twice the height of the chest. In turn, the xiphoid-umbilical distance is twice the length of the umbilical-pubic line. This means that the navel of Nambicuara women lies closer to their pubis.

Pinard has already commented on the practical importance of these ratios in the semeiology of pregnancy. He showed how wrong it would be to apply to all races the research data that concern only a few.

I saw several pregnant Nambicuara women. The pregnancy was already in an advanced stage, but they would not allow any serious examination and I can state nothing about it.

147 [178] It is relevant to point out, however, that none of them exhibited those intradermic furrows caused by the forced distension of the abdomen "pregnancy weals") which occur frequently among white women.

In any case, the skin does not always have the same coefficient of extensibility.

The Indians' skin is endowed with special properties of which we know little. Martius depicted in his Atlas a Miranya Indian whose pierced nostrils had stretched so much that he could wrap them around the ears on either side.

The lips of the Botocudo provide another example of this.

141 Among the males, the three chief segments of the head follow
142 the same ratio. The digestive segment is larger than the other two.

Again the height of the chest is half the height of the abdomen. The same ratios found among the women between the chest and the abdomen and between the parts of the latter are found among the men.

In view of these thoracic-abdominal ratios and of the distance from the navel to the pubis, it may be said that the Nambicuara man has a woman's trunk; and to carry further the study of these interesting proportions, it would not be wrong to assert that among these people the adult retains certain morphological characteristics peculiar to childhood, such as the location of the navel.